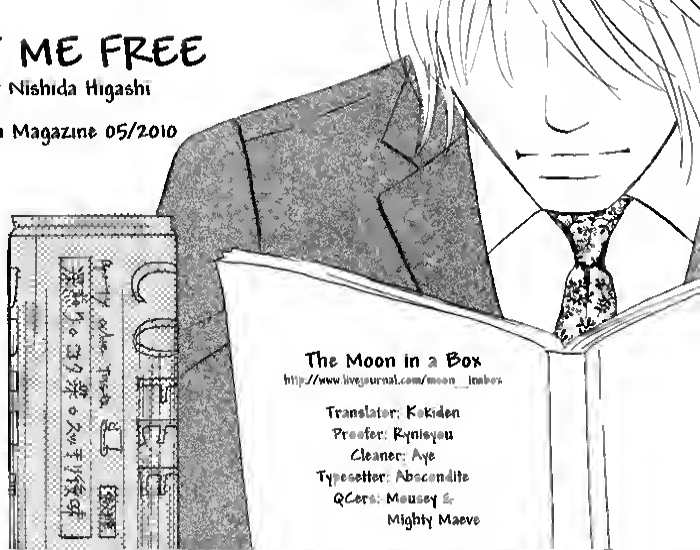
SET ME FREE

by Nishida Higashi

Reijin Magazine 05/2010



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オール新作読み切りスタイル

ヤバいくらいにアダルト、痛いくらいにドラマチック!

特別定価 880円

表紙イラスト 笠井あゆみ

瞳に映る楽園には、君だけが佇んでいる。

初夏限定! スペシャル付録

笠井あゆみ 表紙イラスト クリアファイル!!

深井結己

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神楽坂はん子

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CJ Michalski

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巻頭カラー

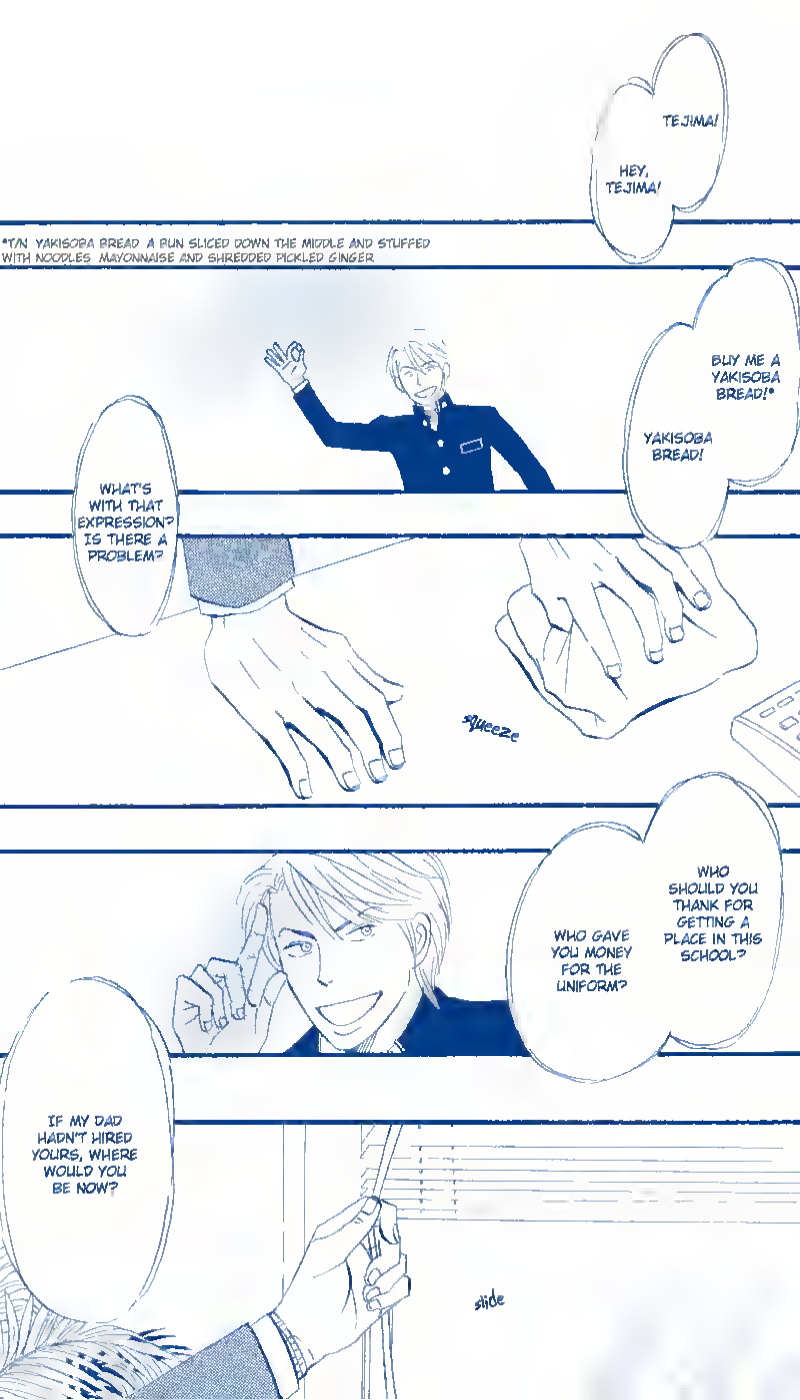
直野儚羅

「裏腹とシンドローム」

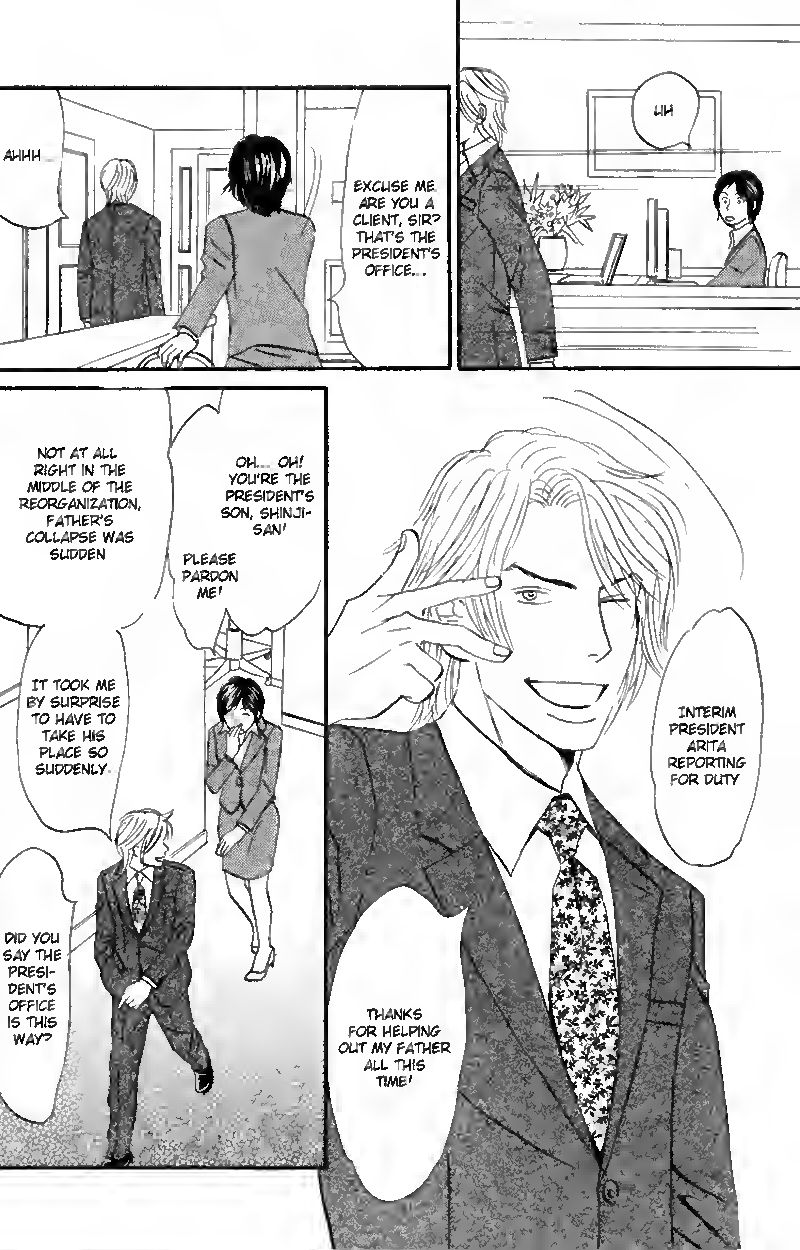
知れば知るほど謎だらけ!? ミステリアス・ラブ・ストーリー!

THE STORY OF UNSKILLFUL LOVERS COLOR 40 PAGES

NISHIDA 西田 東 HIGASHI


TEJIMA!
HEY, TEJIMA!
*T/N YAKISOBA BREAD A BUN SLICED DOWN THE MIDDLE AND STUFFED WITH NOODLES MAYONNAISE AND SHREDDED PICKLED GINGER
BUY ME A YAKISOBA BREAD!*
YAKISOBA BREAD!
WHAT'S WITH THAT EXPRESSION? IS THERE A PROBLEM?
squeeze
WHO SHOULD YOU THANK FOR GETTING A PLACE IN THIS SCHOOL?
WHO GAVE YOU MONEY FOR THE UNIFORM?
IF MY DAD HADN'T HIRED YOURS, WHERE WOULD YOU BE NOW?
slide

SFX: RAPID STEPS


UH
EXCUSE ME. ARE YOU A CLIENT, SIR? THAT'S THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE...
AHHH...
INTERIM PRESIDENT ARITA REPORTING FOR DUTY
THANKS FOR HELPING OUT MY FATHER ALL THIS TIME!
OH... OH! YOU'RE THE PRESIDENT'S SON, SHINJI-SAN!
PLEASE PARDON ME!
NOT AT ALL RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE REORGANIZATION, FATHER'S COLLAPSE WAS SUDDEN
IT TOOK ME BY SURPRISE TO HAVE TO TAKE HIS PLACE SO SUDDENLY.
DID YOU SAY THE PRESI-DENT'S OFFICE IS THIS WAY?

SFX: BAM
ARE YOU STILL IN HERE, TEJIMA?
OH, TEJIM...'S IN THERE?
THAT'S FINE. TEJIMA AND I GO WAY BACK TO HIGH SCHOOL DAYS.
UH, THAT IS...
RIGHT NOW TEJIMA FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IS IN THERE.
WHOA!
GOOD MORNING, PRESIDENT.
appears
HUH?
WHAT THE HELL... HE'S NOT HERE?

...WH--
BUT I'VE FIXED IT NOW.
SORRY FOR STARTLING YOU--
THE CHAIR WAS BROKEN
WHAT THE HELL, YOU SCARED ME ON PURPOSE
...OR RATHER
YOU'RE STILL WORKING AT THIS COMPANY? I WAS SURPRISED WHEN I HEARD ABOUT IT.
YOUR DADDY SET UP ON HIS OWN A LONG TIME AGO AS A LICENSED TAX ACCOUNTANT OR CPA.* DIDN'T HE?
NO. WELL, I THOUGHT YOU'D BE STEPPING INTO HIS SHOES, BUT I'M STILL EMPLOYING YOU..
...
THIS COMPANY ISN'T GOING BANKRUPT--
*CPA= CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

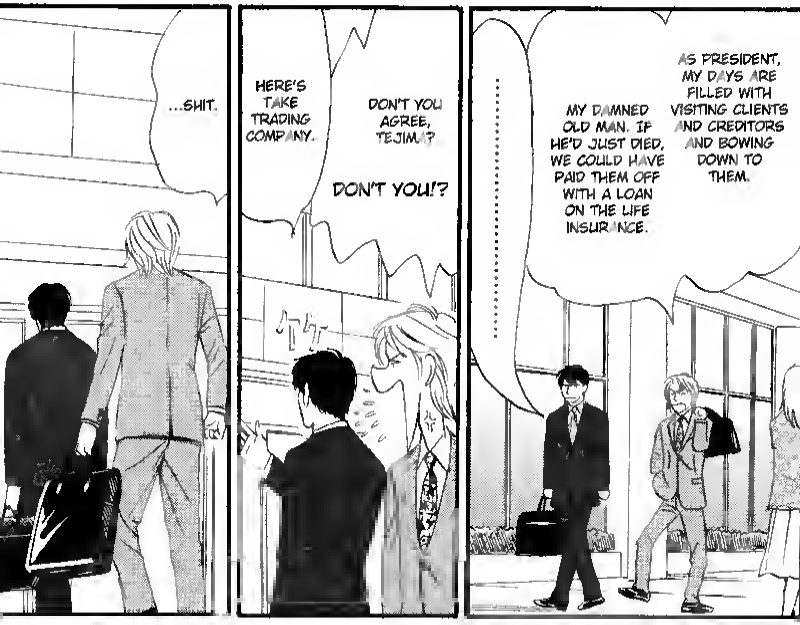
THE PLAN WAS TWO OR THREE YEARS ABROAD UNDER THE PRETEXT OF PLAYING AROUND IN AMERICA, BUT. .
—PERHAPS YOU CAME BACK EARLY IN ORDER TO SEE IT, TEJIMA?
YOU THOUGHT OUR COMPANY WAS GOING BANKRUPT AND "SERVES YOU RIGHT!"
WHY DON'T YOU SAY SOMETHING? EVEN AFTER FIVE YEARS, YOU'RE STILL THE SAME
IT'S BEEN SIX YEARS.
HOWEVER MANY- FIRST, WHY ARE YOU SPEAKING SO POLITELY? IT FEELS WRONG
BECAUSE YOU ARE THE PRESIDENT, AND I AM AN EMPLOYEE.
BY THE WAY, THE PREVIOUS PRESIDENT APPOINTED ME TO THE POSITION OF MANAGER OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS.
IT'S EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, BUT--
TEJIMA
GET ME SOME COFFEE.
UNDER CURRENT CONDITIONS, WITH THE PLANNED REORGANIZATION TO EXPLAIN--
TEJIMA
麗人
REIJIN

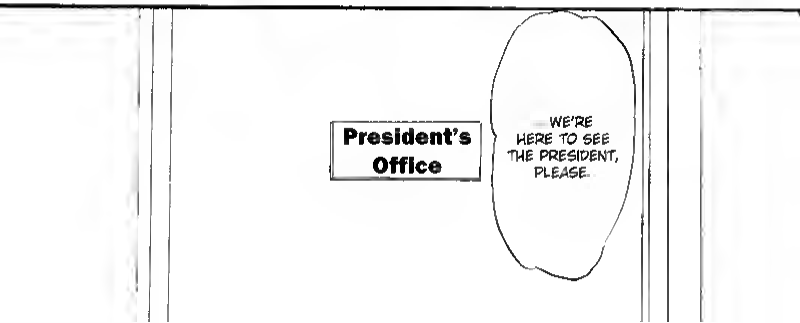
AH--
IN A CAN THE LOW-SUGAR ONE
SFX: PAT
IF YOU WANT COFFEE MADE, THEN CALL--
LOW-SUGAR CANNED COFFEE GO. IF YOU RUN, YOU CAN GET IT IN ONE MINUTE!
HEY, HEY, ARE YOU GOING, TEJIMA?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO WHAT HE SAYS
WHY CAN'T YOU BUY YOUR OWN BREAD, ARITA?
HUH?
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
THAT'S RIGHT.
JUST BECAUSE HIS FATHER IS PRESIDENT, IT DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO DO THAT

LEAVE ME ALONE FOR AN HOUR.
YES--
THANKS-- WELL, I HAVE TO HURRY UP AND READ THIS FILE. I HAVE TO GET UP-TO-DATE ON THE CURRENT STATE OF THE COMPANY.
VERY GOOD. BUT AT TEN, YOU HAVE THE IN-HOUSE BROADCAST OF YOUR INAUGURATION SPEECH.
--HERE
THE CELL NUMBER OF THAT GIRL YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT.
SHIT.
AS ALWAYS, HE'S AN EXCELLENT GOFER
HE HASN'T CHANGED A BIT.
Close
Even though we haven't seen each other for six years...
He's exactly the same.
HERE'S YOUR YAKI-SOBA BREAD.
IS THIS OKAY FOR THAT REPORT?

I love him too much--
I thought if I didn't see him, I'd forget him, but...
even though he's never gone for men...
...it haen't changed anything
I still love him
And he just overlooke that

.....
SHIT...


.....
AS PRESIDENT, MY DAYS ARE FILLED WITH VISITING CLIENTS AND CREDITORS AND BOWING DOWN TO THEM.
MY DAMNED OLD MAN. IF HE'D JUST DIED, WE COULD HAVE PAID THEM OFF WITH A LOAN ON THE LIFE INSURANCE.
...SHIT.
HERE'S TAKE TRADING COMPANY.
DON'T YOU AGREE, TEJIMA?
DON'T YOU!?


President's Office
WE'RE HERE TO SEE THE PRESIDENT, PLEASE.

HMMM WELL, NOW...
OUR COMPANY HAS JUST GONE THROUGH A MANDATED REORGANIZATION. THE ORIGIN OF THE PROBLEM WAS A BANKRUPTCY BROUGHT ON BY CASH FLOW PROBLEMS. THE GOAL IS TO ALLOW OUR FIRM TO RETURN TO OPERATING IN THE BLACK.
WE'D APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED BUSINESS.
WE'VE HAD A LONG RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR FIRM--
COME TO THINK OF IT, THE PREVIOUS PRESIDENT... YOUR FATHER... HOW IS HIS HEALTH?
THANK YOU FOR ASKING. HE'S WELL ENOUGH TO BE ON HIS FEET ALREADY.
I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT. THE PRESIDENT IS A GOOD MAN.
...BUT PERHAPS YOU WILL BE THE PRESIDENT FROM NOW ON?
NO, I'M JUST ACTING AS PRESIDENT ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS IN MY FATHER'S PLACE
OH- I SEE I THINK IT'S BETTER FOR YOU TO STOP TALKING
YOU SHOULD NOT BE SO COMPLACENT
I THOUGHT THAT YOU WERE IN A DIFFICULT SPOT; I DO SYMPATHIZE ABOUT THAT, BUT...
...THIS PRESIDENT SEEMS TO BE WEARING AN EXPENSIVE WATCH. IN ORDER TO CONTINUE DOING BUSINESS, HE SHOULD BE MORE HUMBLE, DON'T YOU THINK?
slp
slp

*T/N: APPROXIMATELY 10 USD
IT'S AN IMITATION OF AN EXPENSIVE WATCH-- PURCHASED FOR A THOUSAND YEN *
PLEASE TAKE A CLOSER LOOK
IN ADDITION
PARDON ME--
ABOUT THAT ...
IT SEEMS LIKE I JUST MADE A FOOL OUT OF YOU, RIGHT?
Hahaha.
*T/N: APPROXIMATELY 150 USD.
I GOT THIS SUIT AT TWO FOR 15,000 YEN *
LOOK... THIS MANUFACTURER DOESN'T MAKE CHEAP PRODUCTS.
FATHER'S THE SAME AS ME. WE'RE VERY MODEST IN OUR WAY OF LIVING AND PAY IT ALL OUT OF OUR OWN POCKETS
BUT I WILL SPEAK WITH THE PRESIDENT. WE'LL CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF A TRANSFER OF BUSINESS.
SO THAT CUSTOMERS WILL CONTINUE TO USE THE PRODUCTS THAT FATHER AND THE EMPLOYEES HAVE DEVELOPED
THE PRESIDENT'S COOPERATION IS INDISPENSABLE.
--PLEASE FAVOR US WITH YOUR CONTINUED PATRONAGE.

plop
plop
plop
AHHHH

DAMN THERE ISN'T A CONVENIENCE STORE IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.
THERE'S NOWHERE TO TAKE SHELTER
.....
.....
TEJIMA. GET ME A COFFEE.
THERE'S A VENDING MACHINE OVER...
.....
.....
I BOUGHT IT WHEN WE PASSED BY EARLIER.
I WANT A COLD ONE!
IN ONE MINUTE-- MAKE A DASH FOR IT!
SFX SPLASH SPLASH
WHY?

WHY DO YOU RUN ERRANDS FOR THAT GUY, TEJIMA-KUN?
YEAH, YEAH! YOU SHOULD STAND UP FOR YOURSELF...
HE'D BACK DOWN AND WOULDN'T ASK YOU ANYMORE
YOU'RE SMARTER AND STRONGER THAN HE IS...
BUT MY DAD IS IN DEBT TO THEM...
...AND ON TOP OF THAT...

He never answered them...

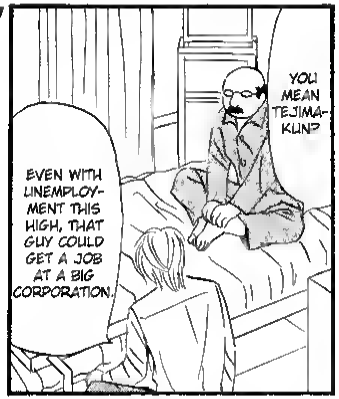
What kind of expression did he have then?

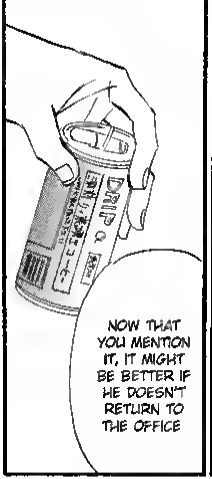
"You don't want to hang out with that kind of idiot do you?"

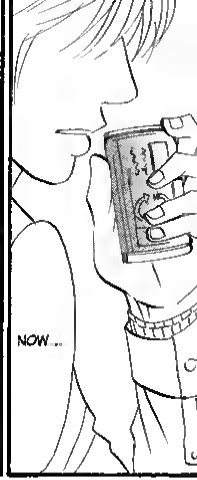
"Isn't he annoying?"

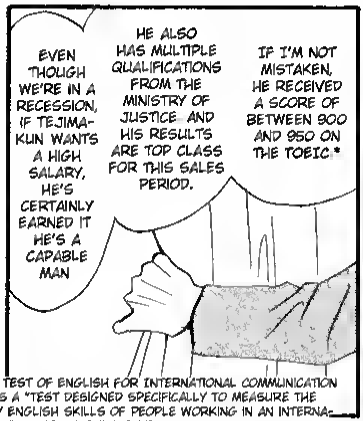
...IT'S OVER.
SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING.
splash
splash
HUH?
TODAY THE COMPANY'S DISSOLVED
I'M GOING STRAIGHT HOME THANKS FOR THIS
中央病院
SIGN: GENERAL HOSPITAL

SHIT.
YOU SHOULDN'T NEGLECT YOUR HEALTH.
EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE, YOU STILL EAT AND DRINK WHATEVER YOU LIKE--
DAD!
BUT THAT'S WHY I'VE STARTED TAI CHI. IT'S FOR MY HEALTH.
GET YOUR RELEASE FROM THE HOSPITAL AND COME BACK AND START REORGANIZING THE COMPANY IS WHAT I'M TELLING YOU!!
Beginning Tai Chi
--YOU SHOULD DO BUSINESS NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE COMPANY, SHINJI.
WHAT COMPANIES HAVE YOU TALKED TO?
I...
I'VE ONLY BEEN ABLE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR OUR LIABILITIES AFTER THIS. WHEN YOU RETURN AS PRESIDENT, YOU--
I DON'T HAVE THE STRENGTH OR ENERGY FOR THAT ANYMORE.
I HAVE A FEELING YOU'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO GETTING BACK TO YOUR OWN LIFE.
BUT THAT'S ALREADY IMPOSSIBLE.
ON THE OTHER HAND, HANDING OVER THE COMPANY TO YOU UNDER THESE CONDITIONS IS...
IT MAY BE MORE THAN YOU CAN HANDLE.



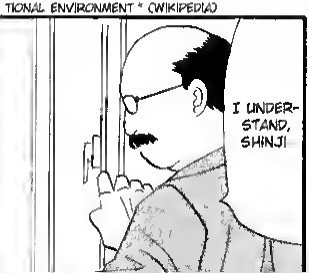





EVEN THOUGH WE'RE IN A RECESSION, IF TEJIMA-KUN WANTS A HIGH SALARY, HE'S CERTAINLY EARNED IT HE'S A CAPABLE MAN
HE ALSO HAS MULTIPLE QUALIFICATIONS FROM THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND HIS RESULTS ARE TOP CLASS FOR THIS SALES PERIOD.
IF I'M NOT MISTAKEN, HE RECEIVED A SCORE OF BETWEEN 900 AND 950 ON THE TOEIC *

SO, WHEN HE DOES HAPPEN TO ENTER A GOOD COMPANY WITH A GOOD SALARY THIS TIME
WHILE I WAS FORCEFULLY MADE TO ENTER THIS COMPANY...
DON'T WORRY

*T/N THE TEST OF ENGLISH FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION (TOEIC) IS A "TEST DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY TO MEASURE THE EVERYDAY ENGLISH SKILLS OF PEOPLE WORKING IN AN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT." (WIKIPEDIA)



I UNDERSTAND IT WELL
I WONDER IF YOU'RE RELUCTANT TO SHOW OFF BECAUSE OF THAT, BUT
I KNOW HE TRIED VERY HARD
...AND SO IT SEEMED AS THOUGH HE WAS JUST FOOLING AROUND, BUT
YOU AND TEJIMA-KUN HAVE DIFFERENT STRENGTHS: HE DID STUDY ABROAD EVEN THOUGH HE ISN'T AS SMART. OF COURSE, HE FAILED TO GET HIS MBA.
ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT HE WILL BE THERE FOR YOU.
HE UNDERSTANDS THE KIND OF MAN YOU ARE.
中央病
SIGN: GENERAL HOSPITAL

THAT GUY UNDER-STANDS--

TEJIMA
WHAT, YOU'RE VISITING MY DAD TOO?
...YEAH. BUT SINCE IT'S GOTTEN SO LATE, I'LL JUST GO HOME TOO.
YOUR UMBRELL-A.
OH
HERE YOU GO
IDIOT. I'M TELLING YOU THE RAIN HAS STOPPED.
...TEJIMA.

THERE ARE NO SUCH GIRLS.
SOMEONE WHO'LL COME RIGHT AWAY.
WHAT GIRLS CAN WE CALL?
IT'S HEAVY, SO BRING IT TO MY HOUSE.
BUY ME SOME BEER AND SNACKS
YES?
STOP WITH THE POLITE SPEECH. WE'RE OUTSIDE OF WORKING HOURS NOW.
LET'S GO BACK TO BEING CLASSMATES.
TEJIMA
YES?

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO STOP WITH THE POLITE SPEECH!
I SAID THAT WE'RE GOING BACK TO BEING CLASSMATES WHO ARE GOING FOR A DRINK!
...BUT THE PRESI-
THAT--
IS THE PRESIDENT 24 HOURS A DAY. THE PREVIOUS PRESIDENT TOLD ME
SFX: SNATCH
THAT'S ENOUGH! GO HOME, GO HOME!
GIMME THE BEER. GIMME THE SNACKS.
NOW GOOD NIGHT!
AHHHH--
SFX THUMP

It's impossible. The burden is too heavy for me.
I don't have the ability.
President for 24 hours a day
Business Administration
No.13
Over Father
Over him
Having free reign over the company
I WANT YOU TO COME.
AAH, THERE'S ONE MORE THING THAT I WANT.
BUY SOME FOR ME.
THERE WASN'T ANY COFFEE IN THE BAG.
TEJIMA?
HELLO

TRANSFER OF BUSINESS ?
AS EXPECTED
BEFORE, WHEN WE WERE TALKING ON THE WAY... YOU SAID YOU CONSIDERED US TO BE CLASSMATES
WELL... ACTUALLY, MY FATHER WAS SUPPOSED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT IT
WHEN I BECAME PRESIDENT, I THOUGHT HE WAS GOING TO COME BACK SOON,
BUT I THINK I SHOULD JUST QUIT
LITTLE BY LITTLE, THE UNENDING WORKLOAD HAS WORN ME OUT
I HATE RESPONSIBILITY AND STUFF LIKE THAT
MY COFFEE--
HUH?
OH--
麗人

THAT THE COMPANY ISN'T GOING TO BE MINE, OR MY FATHER'S ANYMORE.
IT ALSO HAS NO RELATION TO YOUR FATHER EITHER.
YOU'RE A FREE MAN.
HERE YOU GO.
I'M GLAD, TEJIMA.
WHAT?
. . . THAT IS TRUE.
BUT BECAUSE I'M CURRENTLY STILL THE PRESIDENT,
AND SINCE YOU'RE MAKING GOOD USE OF OUR COMPANY,
I THINK YOU SHOULD REPAY US.
WHAT SHOULD I DO--?
LET ME FUCK YOU.

IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME FOR ME, AND YOU LEFT JAPAN. I'M SURE YOU DON'T HAVE A SEX FRIEND.
LET ME EMBRACE YOUR BODY.
LET ME FUCK YOU

click
Good.
click
creak
creak
shake
I've said what I wanted to say
So it's good
creak
I'm already regretting it.

I'VE LOCKED THE DOOR
I... WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO FIRST?

thud

Haa.
Haa.
Ah.
PRESI-
DENT,
I'M
COMING.
I'M..
COMING!
.....

A 24-hour president?
What an absurd rule
Ahhhh...
Jerk, jerk
"I'M COMING," YOU SAID
YOU'RE STILL USING POLITE SPEECH
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME
YOU'RE STILL COMING?
What could be done without instructions?
What can a IT or 18-year old kid do?
I love him too much
If it weren't for his father's debt...
No-- even without it, touching him was something I could never do
Nothing has changed
YOU CAN
UNLESS YOU WANT ME TO PUT IT IN YOUR ASS ..?
HEY
ARE YOU TRYING TO TEMPT ME?
DON'T MOVE SO MUCH

This expression that I've never seen...
.....
To hear his voice for the first time...
Ah.
To touch him for the first time...
.....
.....
However...

Nothing has changed with us.
We're the same as back then.
--LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO OUR NEW PRESIDENT

*T/N THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT'S EMPLOYMENT SERVICE CENTER

I SEE. YOU'VE ALREADY GONE AHEAD AND RESIGNED.
DID YOU GET SCOUTED?
AFTER YOU'VE SETTLED IN, MAYBE I CAN WORK PART-TIME FOR YOU.
...TEJIMA.
WELL--
SEE YA!
DON'T BOTHER SENDING FLOWERS!
SFX: PAT
THIS TIME YOU'RE REALLY FREE!
SPREAD YOUR WINGS AND FLY!
WHA--?
.....?

WHY ARE YOU FOLLOWING ME? I TOLD YOU, YOU'RE FREE!
DON'T FOLLOW ME.
I--
I WAS FREE FROM THE BEGINNING
I'VE ALWAYS DONE WHAT I WANTED TO DO.
SO FROM NOW ON, I'M GOING TO FOLLOW YOU.
AND STAY WITH YOU.
THIS TIME--

THIS TIME I'M NOT GOING ANYWHERE
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I DON'T UNDER-STAND WHAT YOU MEAN AT ALL
.....
WHA--
I'M COMING ALONG
I'M GOING TO HELLO WORK!
I'M GOING TO FOLLOW YOU
DON'T FOLLOW ME!

THEN WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO TO SOME OTHER AGENT OR HEADHUNTER?
THAT'S RIGHT. AND I'M GOING WITH YOU.
I'M GOING TO WORK PART-TIME, YOU KNOW.
SO, I'M ALSO A PART-TIMER NOW
DON'T SAY SUCH UNREASONABLE THINGS. AND DON'T FOLLOW ME WHEN I GO TO TAKE A PISS!
LET'S LIVE TOGETHER
WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE SAYING, YOU?
I guess mutual love appears under many different guises.
SET ME FREE/END